SALAM 2
MISSION TO HERAT
31 AUG – 4 SEP 1988

SALAM 2

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTER-AGENCY ASSESSMENT MISSION TO HERAT
31 August - 4 September 1988

While individual sectoral conclusions are included in the overall mission report a number of key conclusions and recommendations need to be noted :

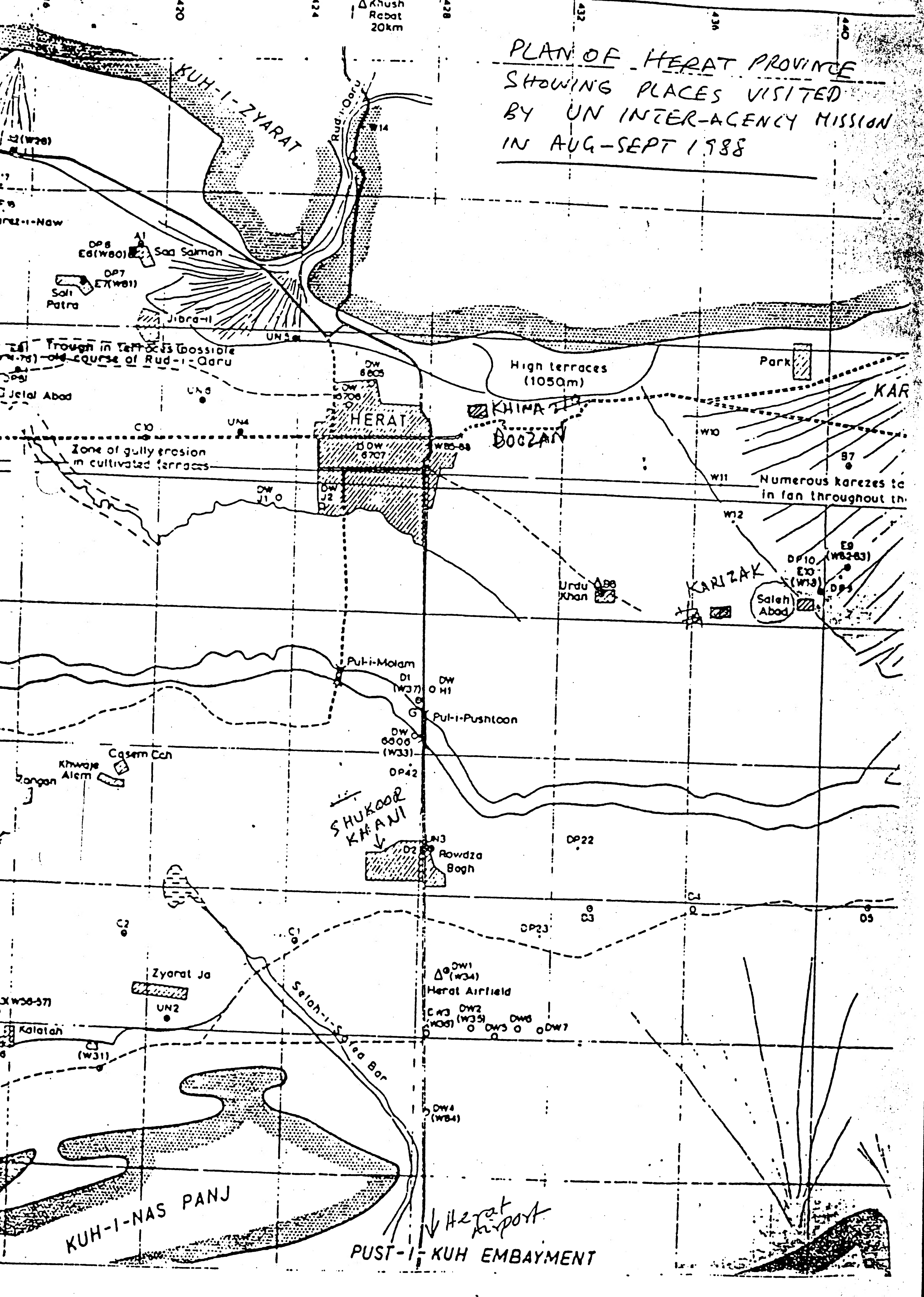
1. The mission found and confirmed that genuine urgent needs for humanitarian assistance exist in the areas of Herat which it visited. The conditions observed by the team require of the international community a humanitarian response from the international community.

2. Many have suggested that rural out-reach humanitarian programmes beyond Kabul are not possible; however, positive examples exist of innovative approaches which reach the needy. For instance, the UNICEF Expanded Programme of Immunization has, since 1987, been operational in Herat using local personnel. Without excluding other modalities the Assessment Mission confirmed the viability and effectiveness of the approach while also confirming that other change agents such as rural development officers travel and are able to help all sides. In the areas visited, the mission participants believe that the UN system is particularly well suited to design and develop such approaches since as it will not only provide basic humanitarian support, but also act as a catalyst promoting peaceful reconstruction.

3. It is suggested that additional counterparts, accepted by all sides, such as health and rural development officers be identified and supported. In addition it is also suggested that selective voluntary organizations both international and national be encouraged and supported to help develop essential humanitarian programmes. The success of this approach will depend on their credibility with community leaders and others; careful selection will thus be necessary.

4. It is important to register the necessity of developing a preparedness capacity which responds to the additional burden which will emerge from the large movement of returnees. Information gathered on the needs of existing population of returnees invariably coincide with the basic requirements of internally displaced persons or needy local communities. It is also important that special measures be taken particularly to provide for and promote the needs of women whose condition has deteriorated during these last 10 years of war.

5. On the basis of the Mission's findings in Herat, it appears likely that the relief phase will be shorter than earlier expected. The development by UN Agencies and others of comprehensive rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to repair the physical damage caused during the conflict and restore the country's productive capacity (especially in rural areas) should commence immediately. This should include extensive training of nationals, thereby establishing a basis for the affected people and the country - to achieve self-sufficiency. Imaginative means should be sought to enable the earliest possible start for such activities.


PLAN OF HERAT PROVINCE SHOWING PLACES VISITED BY UN INTER-AGENCY MISSION IN AUG-SEPT 1988
Khush Rebat 20km
KUH-I-ZYARAT
Rud-i-Qaru
Saa Salman
Sali Patra
Jibra-il
Trough in terraces (possible old course of Rud-i-Qaru
Jelal Abad
High terraces (1050m)
Park
HERAT
KHINA
DOGZAN
Zone of gully erosion in cultivated terraces
Numerous karezes
Urdu Khan
KARIZAK
Saleh Abad
Pul-i-Molam
Pul-i-Pushtoon
Casem Cch
Khwaje Alem
SHUKOOR KHANI
Rowdza Bagh
Zyarat Ja
Kalatah
Herat Airfield
Salah-i-Sfed Bar
KUH-I-NAS PANJ
Herat Airport
PUST-I-KUH EMBAYMENT

U.N. INTER-AGENCY MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN

("Salam 2" Kabul/Heart 31/8 - 4/9/1988)

BACKGROUND OF THE MISSION

The U.N. Co-ordinator for United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programmes relating to Afghanistan, in consultation with the Executive Heads of UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP and WFP, had come to the conclusion that it was essential to send fact-finding missions in order to assess the real needs of the affected population.

The decision was therefore taken to send three missions during August/September 1988 into three different areas of Afghanistan. The Secretary-General authorised the missions upon receipt of confirmation by the U.N. Co-ordinator that all parties concerned had been consulted and informed about the purpose, timing, duration and composition of all three missions, which were given the following names : Salam 1 from Iran into Afghanistan, Salam 2 from Kabul and Salam 3 from Pakistan into Afghanistan.

Salam 2 is the first of these missions which could take place and also the first U.N. substantive mission in Afghanistan outside Kabul in 9 years. The UNHCR office in Kabul ensured, on behalf of the U.N. Co-ordinator, all preparatory arrangements of the mission.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE MISSION

(a) To assess the overall situation with a view to eventual implementation of humanitarian and economic assistance programmes.

(b) To identify logistical problems, and possiblilties for implementation, particularly with regard to potential returnees and displaced persons.

(c) To provide a preliminary assessment of physical conditions of areas visited and assess needs in the light of the Co-ordinator's mandate.

(d) To establish contacts with local authorities for U.N. efforts in the future.

(e) To allow UNHCR to discuss with local authorities issues and activities related to its specific mandate and the role assigned to the UNHCR in the Geneva Accords.

PARTICIPANTS

- Staffan de Mistura (Team Leader), Chief of the Mission/Office of the U.N. Co-ordinator for Afghanistan.

- Pierre Bertrand, Head of UNHCR Mission Team, Kabul.

- Ross Mountain, Deputy Resident Representative UNDP, Kabul.

- Vincent O'Reilly, Officer in Charge UNICEF, Kabul.
- James Alexander, Director of Operations WFP, Nepal.

- Riaz Hassan, Senior Water Consultant, UNHCR.

- Enayet Mandani, Interpreter UNHCR, Kabul.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Date	Time	Place	Activity
26/8	1100 hrs	Kabul	Mr. K. Englund UNDP Officer in Charge.
26/8	1400 hrs	Kabul	Mr. B. Sevan and UNGOMAP staff.
6/8	1500 hrs	Kabul	Dr. Abdul Ghafar Lakanwal, Deputy Foreign Minister.
27/8	1400 hrs	Kabul	General preparatory meeting with government officials.
29/8	1345 hrs	Kabul District Kjair Khana Mina	Visit to displaced people.
31/8	0800 to 0945 hrs	Kabul/Herat	Travel by Air Ariana.
31/8	1030 hrs	Herat	Meeting with Governor Fazelaq Qaleqyar and agreement on programme of visit.
	1100 hrs.	Herat	Accommodation at Herat provincial hospital
	1430 to 1830 hrs.	Herat	Visit of city of Herat : (a) Area destroyed by war. (b) Elementary/Intermediary school. (c) GOA guest-house for returning refugees. (d) Houses of displaced people. (e) Direct contact with local population at Herat central market area.
1/9	0830 hrs.	Herat Province	Liceum Jamiat Attefi, 8 Kms. south.
	1000 hrs.	Herat Province	Silos, 10 Kms. south.
	1130 hrs	Herat Province	Village Shukurkhani, 12 km south-east. Meeting with village council.
	1300 hrs	Herat Province	Noor eye hospital, war wounded.
	1400 hrs	Herat Province	Water works. Depart Herat (Hassan).
	1500 hrs	Herat	Meeting with all returnees present (about 200) at guest-house (Pierre).
	1530 hrs	Herat Province	Visit to Khadistan and Karizak agricultural areas and related

2/9	0930 hrs	Herat	Visit to city agriculture/food production at District Khaima Dosan, 4 km from centre.
	1200 hrs	Herat	Meeting with Mullah Imam of Grand Mosque of Herat.
	1245 hrs	Herat	Additional visit to war destroyed areas of city and further direct contact with local population.
	1445 hrs	Herat	Visit to central water facilities of Herat City.
	1600 hrs	Herat	Visit to patients of provincial hospital, 60% war wounded
	1900 hrs	Herat	Debriefing and working unofficial dinner with Governor and his staff.
3/9		Herat	(Return flight delayed due to technical reasons).
		Herat	Follow-up meetings at working level with following local experts : - Agricultural Extension. - Water - Health - Education, and - Repatriates, local counterparts.
4/9	1030 to 1205 hrs	Herat/Kabul	Return by Air Ariana flight.
5/9	1200 hrs	Kabul	Mission's report drafting meetings.
5/9	1730 hrs	Kabul	Informal meeting with U.N. Agencies Resident Representative in Kabul.
	1900 hrs	Kabul	Informal dinner with diplomatic representatives in Kabul.

CONTACTS MADE

Date	Contact	Participation/ Purpose
26/8	Dr. Abdul Ghafar Lakanwal, Deputy Foreign Minister	S. de Mistura to discuss mission
27/8 and 5/9	Dr. Mohammad Hassan Sharq, Prime Minister.	"
27/8	Dr. Asif Zahir, Minister of Rehabilitation and Rural Development.	All mission members to acquire advance information on areas of concern to mission
	Dr. Agdullah Nagashbandi, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Land Reforms.	"
	Mr. Dastagir Qul Begzad, President of Mines and Industries	"
	Dr. Abdullah Sharq, Deputy Minister of Mines and Industries	
	Dr. Nesar, Deputy Minister of Public Health	
	Dr. Tareq Masson, President of Basic Health Centres.	"
	Dr. Sona Ram, national focal point, Ministry of public health	"
	Dr. Jalal, Deputy Minister of Repatriates.	"
	Mr. Abdullah Oria, President of Water Supply for Cities and Urbans.	"
	Mr. Azizullah Nassiry, President of Water Supply for Kabul City.	"
	Mr. Abdl Ali Hotak, Hydrometrology Dept.	"
	Mr. Abdurab, Deputy Minister of Irrigation, Water and Power.	"
	Mr. A.G. Braish, Foreign Affairs Ministry	"
	USSR Ambassador, Mr. N. Yegorychev.	S. de Mistura to inform about mission
	USA Chargé d'affaires, Mr. J. Glassman.	

LIST OF PEOPLE MET IN HERAT

1.	Agha Mohd Siddiqee	- President Rural Development
2.	Mohd Rasoul Bashermal	- President Water Supply
3.	Mohd Nasser	- Water Engineer
4.	Eng.Mohd Yousof	- President Agriculture
5.	Ghulam Faruk	- Secretary of Governor
6.	Fazlulaq Khaleqyar	- Governor
7.	Nezamudeen Wadat	- President Ministry of Repatriates
8.	Hadji Yousof	- President No.7 Kamaz Co.
9.	Nazar Mohammad	- President Private Transport Sector
10.	Abdul Ahad	- Gumagul Waliswali
11.	Hadji Naroz	- Farmer
12.	Jomagul	- Chairman Shokorkhani Village
13.	Gulam Haider	- Secretary Shokorkhani Village Council
14.	Najibullah	- President Slaughterhouse Project
15.	Mohd Hassan	- President Silo
16.	Abdul Qudus	- President Education
17.	Said Hassan Reshad	- Desk officer Ministry of Returnees (Kabul)
18.	Safurahman Quatil	- Desk Officer (HCR) Ministry of Returnees (Kabul)
19.	Dr. Mohd Hassan Farid	- Provincial Health Officer
20.	Ghulam Sarwar	- Secretary for Publication of PDPA Herat
21.	Mamood Nahim	- Deputy Secretary PDPA Herat
22.	Nahid Ullah	- Foreign Relations Department Governor's Office.

* ______ *

Date	Contact	Participation/ Purpose
28/8	Italian Chargé d'Affaires, Mr.E. Calamai.	S. de Mistura to inform about mission
	ICRC Delegate, Mr. J.P. Lavoyer.	"
	Pakistan Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. F. Yunas.	"
	FRG Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. G. Massmann.	"
	U.K. Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. I.W. Macklye	"
31/8	Governor of Herat, Mr. Fazelaq Qaleqyar and his staff.	All mission members to disuss programme
31/8 to 4/9	Mr. Hassan Farid, Provincial Health Officer Director of Herat Province hospital.	"
	Dr. Rada, Noor eye hospital.	"
	Mr. Rasol, President of Agriculture, Herat Province.	"
	Mr. Aghamohammed Saddiqui, Rehabilitation and Rural Development Officer.	"
	Mr. Mohammed Rasol Basharmal, Director of Returnees Programme, Herat Province.	"
	Provincial Officer, Water.	"
	Director of Silos.	"
	Mr. Shukurkani, Head of Village.	"
	Imam of Grand Mosque, Mr. Gholam Rassoul.	"
	Mr. Katil Saif Rahman, Principal Adviser. of Minister of Repatriates.	"
5/9	Dr. Mohammad Hassan Sharq, Prime Minister	S. de Mistura to inform about the mission.
	Dr. Najibullah, Head of State	S. de Mistura to inform about the mission.

SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

In spite of the very tense situation prevailing in Herat Province, the U.N. team did not encounter any direct security hazard during its visits. It is understood that this was achieved mainly by two precautionary measures :

(a) All parties involved had been informed in advance about the humanitarian nature of the mission;

(b) The "visibility" strategy used throughout by the mission, namely :

- Local transport was done exclusively on U.N. flaged, white-painted EPI/UNICEF jeeps,

- No escort or armed protection was accepted,

- Accomodation in the provincial hospital rather than in official guest-house,

- Use of loudspeakers to announce, upon arrival, to the local population the humanitarian nature of the fact-finding mission in line with well accepted and well known EPI campaign.

It should be noted that the authorities concerned respected fully the mission's wishes and granted total freedom of movement and contacts for the mission.

WAR DAMAGE

- About 40% of the city of Herat has been totally destroyed during the 1983-1985 fierce fightings.

- Roads inside and outside the city are damaged by war but are usable.

- 60% of the trees around Herat have been cut to reduce hiding opportunities.

- Virtually all buildings along the first 15 km of main roads leading to Herat have been destroyed as a precautionary measure.

- Out of 1,300 villages located in Herat Province in 1982, 600 have been either seriously damaged or totally destroyed.

- On the other hand, the main hospital, the city schools, the mosque and 60% of the market are virtually unaffected and have become centres of active life.

- 60% of all surgery patients in the provincial hospital are war wounded.

DISABLED PEOPLE/DEMINING

- The Provincial Hospital has during the last five years implemented 373 amputations mainly due to anti-personnel mines. The great majority of amputations were done on children below 15 years.
- It is estimated by the hospital authorities that about 750 other amputations have been done by other medial facilities during the same period.

- There are no artificial limb facilities in Herat.
- As a case study, the village of Shukurhani with about 1,000 people had 8 children with amputated limbs
- There is no training or information campaign among the population to avoid anti-personnel mines.
- Agricultural areas around villages are the main mine locations.

R E T U R N E E S

A. FINDINGS

1. Relevant data concerning movements of returnees from neighbouring countries to or through Herat Province was made available to the U.N. mission at the main Returnee Peace Guest-House located in Herat Province. The figures were collected from the official border posts of Islam Quala as well as receiving camps and guest-houses located in bordering districts of Gulam, Gezeleslam, Goryan, Adraskan and Shindand.

2. From January 1987 to August 1988, some 60,250 persons have been registered as returnees from Iran.

3170 x month

3. For the record, it is further estimated by the local authorities that an additional number of 20,000 returnees have spontaneously integrated in Herat Province without having presented themselves at the registration points. No further reference will be made to the latter figure as the authorities admitted that given the location of these spontaneous returnees, relief assistance could not be planned or provided in the same manner as for the caseload of registered returnees.

4. In assessing the number of 60,250 registered returnees in Herat Province, it is worth noting that for the period January 1987 to August 1988, the overall number of returnees cited by the Ministry of Repatriates in the 31 provinces of Afghanistan, is 150,580.

5. The mission devoted much time in attempting to refine the figure of 60,250 returnees with a view to obtaining detailed information on dates of arrival, present location and assistance provided. To this effect, documented reports and statistics compiled in Herat since January 1987 have been submitted to the mission. In addition, individual interviews of returnees temporarily residing at the Peace Guest-House in Herat Town, were conducted by the participants of the mission. Arrangements were also made to hold a general meeting with all the residents upon which detailed questions were put to the returnees on their previous location in the neighbouring country, the circumstances of their return, as well as their eventual destination in Afghanistan.

6. These surveys permitted the mission to provide the following breakdown and comments regarding the figures made available.

(a) All the returnees present at the Herat House at the time of the mission indicated that they were coming from Iran and the majority of them from Tehran where they were engaged in wage-earning activities.

(b) Of the 60,250 returnees registered by provincial authorities of Herat, 37,000 have settled in Herat Province while the remaining 23,250 have transitted through Herat to reach other provinces namely : Banyan, Oruzqan, Balkh, Jamzjan and Kabul.

(c) Of the 37,000 returnees having settled in Herat Province, 20,000 are residing in Herat City. The remaining 17,000 are residing in the districts of Gulam, Shindand, Kohassan.

(d) As the number of 60,250 has been calculated from January 1987 to August 1988, it is worth noting that from May 1988 to August 1988, some 18,630 have been registered as returnees to or through Herat Province.

(e) According to the provincial authorities of Herat, it is estimated that some 300,000 Heratis were residing in Iran. Of this number 37,000 could be deducted as they have been registered as returnees in Herat Province.

B. CONCLUSIONS

7. In view of its location as a border province of Iran, Herat not only receives returning Heratis from Iran, but also constitutes an important transit point for returnees from Iran proceeding to other provinces. In terms of percentage, and on the basis of available data 60% of the returnees from Iran entering Herat Province remain in the province while the remaining 40% move to other provinces.

8. Existing receiving facilities established by the Ministry of Returnees, have so far been able to handle the processing of returnees. Strong indications exist, however, that this will not be the case in the immediate future even with the same rate of arrivals (resources allocated to the Ministry both in kind and in cash are reported to be practically exhausted).

9. Given the above, the existing scope of assistance provided by the government both for returnees in transit and for returnees settling in Herat Province will not be able to respond to a sudden large influx of returnees.

10. As available data indicates, the most visible impact of returnees is observed in Herat City where they already constitute nearly 20% of the present population.

11. Basic needs for the returnees in Herat City invariably coincide with ~~those of~~ those of the local population, including displaced persons from one damaged district to other parts of the town. Shelter, water supply, health an schooling should be considered as priority elements of assistance.

12. With regard to returnees settling in rural areas of Herat Province, notwithstanding access and logistics aspects, the areas of support would focus on food, shelter and basic agricultural implements.

13. In view of the close involvement of local officials from the Ministry of Returnees, it is hardly feasible to operate humanitarian activities on their behalf without close co-ordination with the established receiving points. It would be advisable either to mobilise one NGO or place locally recruited U.N. personnel to assist in the implementation of an eventual programme.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Of the 1,300 villages in Herat Province in 1978 approximately 600 now exist intact. Some 40% of the villages have been totally destroyed. Damage to irrigation systems, drinking water sources and agricultural production has been noted in other sections of this report.

In 10 years of war 1,500 kms of irrigation, 200 kms of rural roads and 120 bridges and culverts and 200 kerezes and wells previously completed by the Rural Development Department have been destroyed.

Beyond reconstruction of physical infrastructure restoration of the productive and social base of village life including agriculture, cottage industry, water supply, health and education, needs to be addressed. The councils of elders met by the mission were outspoken in asserting the priorities for their villages.

A new rural programme has been established in Herat which covers women's welfare and rural industry (handicrafts) public health, agriculture, construction and small irrigation projects. The programme is particularly concerned with clearing Karezes and the provision of wells (in 1988/89 to 50 villages in 8 woluswalies) and integrated rural development schemes (in 1988/89, 5 villages of which 4 in Ingil woluswali) based on surveys by mmultidisciplinary teams.

The village programmes include cleaning Karezes, reconstruction of culverts, graveling of short feeder roads and well digging - usually for irrigation and promoting carpet production. The social aspects of integrated rural development have yet to be developed. There are currently 8 technical staff in Herat Province which is planned to expand to 23 in the near future. (In 1978 there were 57 professionals to service Herat's needs).

While most work undertaken by Rural Development Officers is less than 30 kms from Herat city ,it is widely believed that rural development workers travel in areas of uncertain security with the concurrence of all parties.

Construction projects are partially self-helped with villagers being paid at a daily rate of Afs 300 as contrasted with the wages paid for unskilled labourers and masons in Herat of Afs 500 and Afs 1,500 respectively.

Needs identified by the mission included agricultural inputs such as improved seeds, pesticides, drilling rigs (for 25 meters less) light machinery for road construction and vehicles to reach distant villages. Training courses are also required for extension personnel. WFP, UNDP, FAO/UNICEF assistance has, in the past, been extended to such rural development activities.

AGRICULTURE

Irrigated agriculture in Herat Province depends mostly on Karezes (underground reservoirs of which there are 468 systems). Farmers met by the mission in the villages visited pointed to the low level of agricultural productivity and emphasized above all their need for water. In a province where average rain fall is 250 mm per annum restoration of irrigation through repair of war dameged and abandoned karezes, and irrigation canals and the digging of new wells is a priority activity for increasing the productivity of existing cultivation and bring back into cultivation lands not tilled during the war. Out of a total irrigated area of 112,000 ha in 1978 it is estimated that some 40,000 ha are now not receiving water. Amongst previous rural development department projects alone 1500 kms of irrigation canals and 200 karezes and wells have been destroyed over the last 10 years.

The main food crops produced in Herat are wheat, barley and rice. Vegetables and fruit are also grown. The overall decline in cultivated area yield is variously estimated at 20 to 50%. Production of cotton is now one sixth of its pre-war level.

Other inputs identified as urgent requirements by farmers were fertilizer, improved seeds, and pesticides.

Fertilizer, while still available from outlets in six district centres at subsidized rates (Afs 600 per 50 kgs) often need to be purchased by farmers at a much higher price (up to Afs 1000) due to the diffulties of distribution. Similar factors also limit farmers access to seeds, pesticides and veterinary supplies. A seed production facility exists in Herat but improved varieties are urgently required to restore yields.

The animal population has similarly suffered from 10 years of conflict with declines in sheep herds estimated at 20 to 80% and cattle, so important for ploughing, down 30 to 85%. Goat, chicken and camel numbers are also markedly depleted.

Agriculture credit facilities are now virtually non existent. Faced with mounting uncollectable debts the Agricultural Bank is now severely limiting its operations and loans to successful farmers wishing to install water pumps. Only 25 such loans were reportedly made in the last financial year.

Labour available to the agricultural sector has similarly fallen by some 40-50%. Extension service staff in Herat Province has declined dramatically from 180 technical officers in 1978 to 12 now. Previously 18 extension units were operating in 12 woluswalies and 3 sub-districts each with approximately 10 field workers. Currently 4 district offices are maintained with 12 extension agents. The provincial office in Herat also has limited personnel to provide specialized support in Veterinary Services (8), Plant Protection (4), Agricultural Research (4),Animal Husbandry and Sericulture (1). While some of those earlier working as extension agents have left Afghanistan, others have been conscripted into the army, killed in the war or have simply left the service. Very low civil service wages (less than Afs 400 per month) doubltless contribute to the latter phenomenon. It is nonetheless hoped that additional personnel with basic agricultural extension experience will become available when peace is restored.

CONCLUSIONS

The revival of a sector on which up to 90% of the population of the province depends for its livelihood is clearly vital. The supply of agricultural inputs and the training of personnel required to improve the productivity of existing agricultural areas and to help those displaced and returnees to recommence agriculture on abandoned farm land should be addressed now wherever it is feasable. Extensive technical assistance including for a comprehensive assessment of needs and planning future agricultural development should also be made available when conditions permit. This will need to include appropriate farm machinery and vehicles for extension work. Apart from irrigation systems, animal health clinics and other agricultural buildings destroyed and damaged by the war will also needs reconstruction.

EDUCATION

1 The education institution visited by the Assessment Mission presented examples of a system which has, particularly at the primary and literacy levels all but collapsed. Schools have little, if any, support infrastructure such as basic teaching aids, pencils, school-books and others. Also missing are school furniture with the result that children must sit on the cold, damp ground. Indeed, as few school buildings have doors or windows to protect children against the elements, they must close during the cold winter months. Literacy levels are estimated at only 5% and girl enrolment at less than 1%. Low motivation by teachers is also a problem caused in part by their extremely low salaries (less than 40 US dollars per month) and lack of refresher training. There are only 88 primary schools functioning in the whole province and of these some 60% have suffered war damage, while an additional 60% schools have been totally destroyed. Indeed, not only has the school infrastructure suffered by the war but also some 400 primary teachers have been killed.

2 To put the system back in place it will be necessary to undertake reconstruction, provide basic furniture, teaching aids, support teacher training and advocate promotion/increase enrolment of girls. Additionally, education needs of the disabled will have to be addressed.

3. In responding to the above in an emergency mode it is estimated that some 500,000 US Dollars will be immediately required. As this project will include the delivery of education services to returnees, the UNHCR could participate in the overall programme including provision of material and financial support. In addition, reconstruction of school facilities could be part of a food for work programme, thus WFP will be an operational partner.

1.0 Food and Food Aid in Herat Province

1.1 Production

Cereal production in FY 1987-88 is officially estimated at 237,000 mt giving a per capita annual availability of about 270 kg;

The latest official estimate for cereal production is not substantially less than it was in 1978 and is considered to be significantly overestimated;

From the official estimates it would appear that the basic minimum cereal requirements for the current population could be met locally, however such an assumption is unrealistic. The provincial authorities indicated that they were only able to meet about 60% of their requirements. It must be assumed that any relief food assistance would have to be provided from outside Herat Province.

2.0. Projected relief requirements

The following projections could form a basis for calculating possible relief food aid requirements.

There will be 3 target groups :

1. Those transisting through Herat to other provinces and these are estimated to be 60,000/year over 3 years.

2. Those returning to Herat Province and these are estimated to be 90,000/year over 3 years.

3. Resettlement of displaced people living in Herat Province which is estimated at 100,000/year over 3 years.

The following assumptions have been made in preparing projected food requirements : transiting returnees will be fed in a transit camp for 5 days, those returning to Herat Province will be fed in transit camps for 3 days and given a 6 month subsistence ration, displaced people will be given a 6 month subsistence ration.

The total food required for relief is estimated at 20,000 mt per year over 3 years.

The 3 year time frame for relief activities is based on plans prepared by the Ministry of Returnees. In reality the influx of returnees could be concentrated over a much shorter duration, and annual food needs would have to be adjusted accordingly.

1.3. <u>Logistics</u>

1.31 <u>Storage</u>

The following storage facilities exist:

	MT
Silo (Ministry of Light Industry)	39,000
Peasant Cooperatives	6,000
Fertilizer Enterprise	12,500
Cotton Enterprise	12,000

Private storage is also available for rent in Herat City, and given the climatic conditions the possibility of temporary ouside storage for wheat and tinned products should not be overlooked.

Based on projected relief requirements it is considered that the existing storage facilities should be adequate. This assessment will have to be consideed if there is a very large influx of returneed over a short period.

1.32 Transportation

A public sector company has 171 trucks in Herat with repair, spare parts storage and fuel storage facilities. The current annual carrying capacity is estimated at 75,000 mt.

About 500 private sector trucks operate from Herat under Government co-ordination. The estimated current annual carrying capacity is 100,000 mt.

A large airbase exists at Shindand and under emergency conditions could be used for air-lifting food.

Transportation costs

Public sector (subsidized) 5,4 A/mt/km
Private Sector about 12.0 A/mt/km

The available transport facilities would most likely be adequate for the movement of any relief food aid, however, this would have to be reassessed based on the likely delivery schedules.

1.33 Road conditions

All roads are in a badly deteriorated condition. Traffice is flowing freely on the north/south road between Torgundi and Shindand and east/west between Islam Qola and Herat. The road between Shindand and Qandahar is reportedly in a very bad state and this area is not secure and trucks generally travel in military convoys.

Approximate travel times

Torgundi/Herat	6 hours
Islam Qala/Herat	4 hours
Herat/Camon (Pakistan border)	14 days

It would not currently appear feasible to transport any externally supplied food aid from Pakistan via Qandahar. The only alternatives would be from Iran entering via Islam Qola or from USSR via Torgundy.

1.4 Food aid for future rehabilitation

The rehabilitation requirements will be enormous and priority should be given to the rehabilitation of irrigation facilities, buildings including schools, and roads and bridges.

The Ministry of Rural Development was recently re-established, and with very limited personnel and material resources has started a modest rural development programme around Herat City. This programme is already being extended to areas not securely held by the Government.

WFP previously supported rural development activities in Herat Province and unutilised commitments remain from this project. The best vehicle for initially reintroducing food aid assisted development activiites would be by reactivating this programme on a small scale, however, this would necessitate UN staff being able to undertake field travel, or other arrangements made for monitoring.

1.5 Counterpart arrangements for food aid

Relief assistance would be most appropriately, therefore, be channeled through the Ministry of Returnees. This arrangement would be however, likely to create concern in some quarters, because of fear, by some, of possible misuse of this assistance, the proposed solution is to solicit NGO support to carry out monitoring functions.

Initial food aid for development activities in the Herat area would be best channeled through operational partners acceptable to all sides and possibly belonging to the Ministry of Rural Development.

HEALTH

The United Nations Assessment Mission which visited Herat found a critical health and nutrition situation affecting most women and children. Basic health care facilities have little or no drugs or other basic supplies: doctor patient ratios in rural areas is 1 per 50,000. It is estimated that infant mortality rates in Herat are 185 per 1,000 live births with a resulting 7,500 yearly child deaths. Of these 85% are caused by diarrhoea and EPI targeted diseases.

As in other provinces of Afghanistan where no accelerated immunization activities were undertaken, immunization coverage with the EPI antigens in Herat before 1987 was estimated to be between 5-10% for children under one year old.

Prior to 1987 provision of UNICEF assistance to provinces was not possible due to restriction on travel by UNICEF staff for monitoring purposes. However, given the need to respond to the low coverage described above and the unacceptable resulting mortality rates an experimental EPI programme, utilizing local medical staff was launched in August 1987 in three provinces (Parwan, Kunduz and Herat).

As the first UN International Staff team to visit rural areas of Afghanistan during the last 10 years it was particularly heartening to find that the UNICEF supported EPI programme was not only operational in Herat City but also responding to needs in rural areas. This is not to suggest the absence of problems but rather the opposite with a critical need not only for the expansion of the EPI programme but also the provision of essential basic health care supply interventions.

In planning for the programme, clear provision has been made as with the limited on-going programme for delivery of services to vulnerable populations residing in contested zones. This was to be negotiated through religious leaders who, as with the on-going programme, have assured safety to the members of the vaccination teams. One condition that the Mujahidin leaders invariably set is that the vaccination teams should not be accompagnied by Government of Party officials. This has been accepted by all parties.

Additionally and while many have suggested that effective rural programmes are not possible, it is clear and has been documented that from 20 August 1987 up to June 1988, the following immunization coverages have been reached for children under one year and women of child-bearing age (15-44 years)

DPT/Polio I	15,607
DPT/Polio II	13,323
DPT/Polio III	12,741
BCG	14,901
Measles	12,160
TT1	17,113
TT2	12,982

To achieve the above it is estimated that UNICEF has extended during a six-month period supplies and equipment to the Province, as well as training, per diem and other running costs, totalling some US $ 200,000.00.

The UN Inter-Agency Assessment Mission visited and evaluated the viability and actual implementation of UNICEF supported health programmes and from the practical experience thus far gained in programme implementation it is proposed to extend urgent health services in the following five priority areas.

1. Maternity Hospital and MCH clinic
2. Basic Health Centres
3. Expanded Progamme on Immunization
4. Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases
5. Environmental Health (Water Supply and Sanitation).

Maternity Hospital and NCH clinic

Assistance could included supplies and equipment for labour and delivery care, as well as basic supplies for the neo-natal ward. Up-grading the laboratory facilities of the maternity hospital is another relevant requirement.

For the MCH clinic, basic medical supplies, essential drugs and laboratory reagents are required.

Basic Health Centres

Assistance to these rural institutions may consits of :

- Repairment of damaged buildings
- Provision of basic medical supplies, including cold-chain system components
- Essential drugs
- Provision of vehicles for distribution of supplies, drugs and supervision, given the scattered location of the BHC in the province.

Expanded Programme on Immunization

Activities could include :

- Campaign coverage using mobile medical teams
- Establishment of fixed vaccination centres in 11 of the 13 BHC of the province
- Establishment of 4 vaccination sub-centres in Herat City

In order to ensure a propoer maintenance phase in Herat City, establishment of four vaccination sub-centres, these to be installed at :

- Kandahar Darwaza
- Kosh Darwaza
- Pay-Hssar
- Pul-Negena

Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases

This component of assistance would comprise of intensive health education on preventive measures, improvement of environmental health conditions, and saturation distribution of ORS packets aiming to reduce mortality due to dehydration. Production of ORS packets will take place in Kabul and transported by air to Herat. Following supplies will also be distributed through all possible outlets, including hospitals, NCH clinics, Basic Health

Budget

The estimated initial costs involves for the programme of assistance suggested are :

(a) Maternity Hospital and MCH clinics

-	Medical supplies for Hospital	US Dollars	100,000
-	Medical supplies for MCH clinic		50,000
-	Essential drugs		10,000
-	Vehicles (2)		20,000

(b) Basic Health Centres (13)

-	Repair of damaged buildings	500,000
-	Basic supplies and equiment including furniture and laboratory	
-	Equipment (20,000 per centre)	250,000
-	Essential drugs (5,000 per centre)	55,000
-	Vehicles (10 jeeps and 5 motor-cycles)	110,000

(c) Expanded Programme on Immunization

-	Vehicles	80,000
-	Cold-chain equipment for fixed centres (13 BHC and one MCH clinic, including generators) (2,000 per centre)	28,000
-	4 sub-centres (containers) in Herat City including supplies and equipment (2,000 per sub-centre)	6,000

(d) Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases

-	Two vans for collection and distribution of ORS packets	30,000
-	Basic supplies for ORT units at health centres (1,000 per centre)	20,000

(e) Environmental Health

Rehabilitation of Existing System

Equipment	No.	Unit Cost		Total Cost
- Hand Pump	53	400	US Dollars	15,000
- Power pumps	9	5,200		46,800
- Repair of systems	9	5,000		45,000
- Spare parts	-	-		20,000
- Jeeps	3	10,000		30,000
- Pickup	2	12,000		24,000
- Garbage disposal trucks	5	20,000		100,000
- Equipment of collection and disposal of wastes	-	10,000		10,000
- Concrete bins	100	100		10,000
- Construction of latines for children's institutions	50	2,000		100,000
		Sub-total		400,000

Additional Cost

Other expenses requqired to be considered in a programme of assistance to Herat province would be :

- Provision of containers or construction of a central warehouse in Herat City to stock all supplies and equipment	US Dollars	5,000
- Manpower cost (travel, per diem allowances and others)		50,000
- Training and orientation costs (for health amd non-health Personnel)		50,000
- Advocacy and social mobilization activities		100,000
- Freight		200,000
- Other unplanned expenses and reserve		200,000

Total cost of operation US Dollars 2.3 Million

WATER SUPPLY

GENERAL

1. The cities of Herat and Kabul depend mainly on underground sources (hand-dug and drilled wells) for their potable water supplies. The available groundwater resources are adequate to meet the present and future demands of the two cities.

2. The population of the two cities in 1978 and 1988 are estimated at :

	1978	1988
Herat	163,000	140,000
Kabul	1,250,000	2,250,000

The population projections for 1990 allowing for the returneed from Iran and Pakistan and the dispersal of displaced persons within the country are :

Herat	215,000	Kabul	2,250,000

HERAT

3. In 1978, some 60,000 Heratis (40 percent of the population) received water from piped water system trough 4,000 house connections for 12 hours daily. The remaining population (60 percent) depended on private or communal wells. As much as 40 percent of the city's water supply system has been destroyed or damaged by war and in 1988 about 35,000 Heratis receive piped water supply for only 1 or 2 hours daily. The situation has been aggravated by the continue inflow of refugees to the city and may reach alarming proportions

4. Water pumped from 6 deep wells located within the city boundaries. At present, the distribution system and especially the water works are in a state of obsolescence due to the lack of maintenance and spares. The existing pumps, generators, chlorinators and other equipment need either immediate rehabilitation or replacement. The water supply department has kept the system running in intolerably difficult conditions. The following machinery is required immediately to rehabilitate the system:

i)	Submersible pumps (capacity 40 lit/sec	8
ii)	Generators (160/200 KVA)	4
iii)	Chlorinators	2
iv)	Vehicles (4 pick-up vans + 1 jeep)	5

5. Some 700 of the 1,300 villages in the Herat province have either been destroyed or damaged. Rehabilitation of water supplies to these villages where wells have been damaged should be carried out by digging or drilling shallow wells (up to 50m. deep) in conjunction with installation of hand pumps. ($ 3 Million).

WATER QUALITY

6. The available water quality data dating back to 1978 indicates that the quality is generally within the WHO-recommended "maximum permissible" limits. The only treatment that water received until 1978 - chlorination - has stopped because the chlorinators either have broken down or chlorine is not available.